

**Cimarron Presbytery Winter Stated Meeting Minutes**  
**February 9, 2021; 9:00am; held via Zoom**

9:00am **Opening Prayer and Welcome** - Moderator Kathy Thomas  
Moderator opened with a reading from Matthew 25 and prayer

Role Call (in lieu of sign in sheets) - Mark Southard

Attending:

Teaching Elders: Gordon Edwards (General Presbyter); Rick Mills (HR); Linda Sherry (Ponca City); Leah Hrachovec (Stillwater); Jenny Hardin (Stillwater); Karen Rogers (Woodward); Deborah Meinke (HR); Ron Fike (Perry)

Ruling Elder Commissioners: Katherine Thomas (Stillwater, Moderator); Ida Evans (Alva), Mike Dvorak (CP Blackwell); Nancy Dale (Guymon); Mark Southard (Stated Clerk & CP Newkirk), Mike Hull (Newkirk); Ann Hight (Perry); Jenna Campbell (CCE Stillwater), Ed Arquitt (Nominating committee moderator, Stillwater), Rusty Rex (Stillwater)

Corresponding: Boksoon Egbert (Synod of the Sun moderator); Lemuel Garcia (Presbyterian Mission Agency Representative); Joseph Moore (Presbyterian Foundation), Verne Arens (Parish Associate, Stillwater)

Guests: None

Excused: Andrew Long (Enid), Bill Salmons (Ponca City)

Recognition of guests and seating of Corresponding members.

Certification of a Quorum - A quorum of at least

9:15-9:45am **Worship** with virtual communion (Please arrange to have elements available) Liturgy by Rev Gordon Edwards, Rev. Ron Fike (newly called to Perry) will Preach, Offering will go to support the Oklahoma Regional Food Bank

9:45-10:15am **Enrichment Topic** - Matthew 25 initiative: We signed up, now where do we go from here? Rev. Lemuel Garcia-Arroyo will have some examples and lead our discussion.

Lemuel brings greetings from PMA and Diane Moffet - PMA Director  
He expresses gratitude for Cimarron's support and engagement with the Matthew 25 initiative.

Next Steps as a Matthew 25 Presbytery:

There are currently 740 congregations signed up - including Guthrie and Stillwater.

69 Mid-Councils - including Cimarron

36 other groups such as colleges, volunteer groups

Three emphasis:

Building Congregations vitality

Eradicating Structural Racism

Eradication of Systemic Poverty

Embodiment of Christian principles to engage the world and doing the work necessary.

In Jesus' parable the judgement of the nations - based on the treatment of the hungry, thirsty, stranger (new Arrivals) naked (the impoverished) sick (access to health care), Prisoner (justice)

The Matthew 25 initiative seeks to clarify understanding, connect and unite, celebrate and grow. Focus what we are already doing through the lens of Matthew 25.

Impacts: Increase spiritual energy, impact, new disciples, ignite witness - No longer the frozen chosen! But alive and active. What are practical ways to call out the powerful who disregard principles of compassion and justice? Ways to stand WITH and learn FROM the poor and marginalized. Engage with people with love and compassion.

Practical ways to approach congregational vitality? How are we being called in our own context? Arkansas presbytery invites a speaker to address a portion at each meeting.

Lemuel showed a couple of short videos - about how some are responding.

And a church becoming multicultural - Hispanic pastor

Lifted up Matthew 25 website and resources there. Synod network for Dismantling Systemic Racism, invited tell our story also - submit to website. He urged us to get active and do our part.

Q&A?

Kathy Thomas described some of the rich resources on the website.

Lemuel offered to visit virtually to other groups

Break (10 minutes)

10:35am **Business Meeting:**

**Nominating committee report** (Elder Ed Arquitt, Moderator)

Filling vacancies on COM&P and Council:

The Presbytery Nominating Committee nominates:

Rick Norris to fill the one year position on the Presbytery Council.

Andrew Long replacing Deb Meinke on COMP for the remainder of this year.

Nominations from the floor? - none

Motion by Rev. Gordon Edwards to cease nominations and elect by acclamation. Seconded. Motion Passed unanimously.

**Finance Report** - (Rev. Andrew Long, Treasurer)

Moved and seconded to approve financial report as submitted

See Packet materials for Finance reports

**Commission on Ministry and Preparation Report** -

(Rev. Leah Hrachovec, moderator)

Introduction and Enrollment of Rev. Ron Fike (Perry) to the Presbytery

COM has met with Ron and recommends enrollment to the presbytery -

Motion from COM&P: Unanimous approval.

Dismissal of Rev. Deborah Meinke(HR) to Heartland Presbytery - with great regret, but also our best wishes. Motion to dismiss from COM&P - (passed with regret)

Report and approval of Terms of Call for 2021

Motion to Approve - Passed

Annual approval of temporary membership in Presbytery for Commissioned Pastors and regular Supply Pastors, Corresponding members Verne Arens, Motion form COM - Approved

Item of information - Jr Woods of Tonkawa accepted into Austin Seminary CIM Program.

**Council Report** – (Elder Kathy Thomas, Moderator)

Presbytery Mission Grants were issued to 5 congregations (see Packet)

Presbytery grant to Oklahoma Regional Food Bank

Racism Book Study ongoing discussion with Rev. Jenny Hardin - M. L. King Book "Where do we go from here".

Spring Presbytery date: Tri-Presbytery, originally scheduled for June 4-5, 2021 has been moved to June 3-4, 2022 due to the Pandemic.

Should we move our Spring Stated Meeting to its normal May 11th date? Via. Zoom.

Motion made to restore the normal date - Approved. Ron Fike asked to be excused due to prior commitment.

**General Presbyter's report** - (Rev. Gordon Edwards)

Dwight Camp update - Last week, letter of intent with Cherokee Nation was signed. Entering into negotiations to give back original land and sell additional land to payoff PILP loan. Presbyteries will need to vote on sale when the deal is concluded. Any Dwight property will need to be claimed soon so let Gordon know if there is something to be withheld from sale. ie stained glass in dining hall.

Israel/Palestine Trip rescheduled to May of 2022. Exact date pending.

OPN and GA news

Formed a Children and Youth Task force - Jenna Campbell and Sherri Schieffer and Annette Newcome will serve from Cimarron Josh Kerr will serve as convened/moderator.

Network for dismantling Racism - plan to mark Tulsa Race Massacre delayed due to pandemic.

Thursday

May27th virtual presentation by Hannibal Johnson: History and Present state of Greenwood.

Request from Christianne Chase - Synod Examination Reading Committee - Requesting Polity Questions/situation for New Exam.

Gordon expressed appreciation for a grant for Dental expenses.

Question from Leah about service to mark the end of Dwight Camp?

Discussed but not set yet.

Question from Deb Meinke about target date to conclude Dwight Deal? Will try to do so quickly due to PILP loan.

**Stated Clerks report** - Elder Mark Southard  
Statistical Reporting is due - See report

**Synod Update** - (Elder Bok Soon Egbert, Synod Moderator)  
She expressed thanks for the invitation from South Louisiana Presbytery.  
She shared a Korean phrase - “같이 갑시다” Katchi Kapshida! Let’s go together! This is a Year of anti-Racism for Synod of the Sun  
Grants have been made to the Network for Dismantling Racism.  
Sunspots Podcasts are now available.  
The upcoming Synod assembly will be online via Zoom.

**Christian Educator Certification/SCRAPCE** - Elder Jenna Campbell  
SCRAPSE: Great SCRAPSE Share Feb 25 at 1:00pm  
COM Webinar on Feb 18th at 2:00pm with Panel on Christian Education  
Multiple levels now available for CE personnel: new CEA basic skills level - Paid or Volunteer . Ideal for Small churches - 6 content areas in courses using Equip Platform and Working with an advisor.  
APSE Bruce Reyes Chow shared presentation on Hybrid church - what will it look like. Will present more at Oct 18th-20th event at Austin or on line

**Presbyterian Foundation Update** -

By Rev. Joseph Moore, Ministry Relations Officer  
Thank you regarding last Presbytery meeting at Ponca with Racism discussion led by Rev. Jenny Hardin- Cimarron is doing amazing work together. He shared slides about Foundation services:  
Online giving service still available through the foundation lowest cost available. See foundation Website for more.  
Church Financial Leadership Academy available online. Stewardship Navigator - including planned giving March 4th Foundation Day of Learning - 3 Online Seminars: Best practices, faithful investing, culture of generosity.

**New Business**

COMP - installation commission for Ron? How to deal with Pandemic?  
Joseph Moore has seen it via Zoom. Connection done with Red ribbon instead of laying on of Hands.  
Motion made to appoint an Installation Commission for Rev. Rick Fike at Perry: Rev Gordon Edwards, Rev Rick Mills, Rev. Leah Hrachovec, Rev.

Karen Rogers, Elder Rusty Rex, Elder Ann High, Elder Kathy Thomas  
(Presbytery Moderator)  
Motion made seconded and Passed  
Kathy Thomas will coordinate dates

### **Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

12:00pm **Adjournment**

Moderator Kathy Thomas read from Is 58:1-12 and closed the meeting with prayer.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted.

Mark Southard  
Stated Clerk